

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph (section) beginning on page 5, at line 20 as shown below:

The reinforcing fibers used are present in an amount of 0.5 to less than 4 volume percent, preferably 1.0 to 3.0 volume percent, and most preferably 1.5 to 2.5 volume percent. The nature of the fibers must meet certain criteria. For example, the fibers must be of high strength and modulus, and must exhibit a high bond strength to the matrix. Fibers which do not meet such limitations may be added in addition to those which do meet the limitations, but are preferably absent. Fiber length is about 4 mm or greater, and generally limited by processing constraints to 30 mm or less. The average diameter of the fibers is from [[20]] 10 to 100 μm , preferably 10 to 60 μm , more preferably 20 to 60 μm , and yet more preferably 30 to 60 μm .